

In the claims:

1. In a radio communication system having a mobile station operable by a user at least to send voice data to a correspondent node pursuant to a voice service, an improvement of apparatus for facilitating formation of an apparent push-to-talk communication session connection at least during a selected portion of a communication session, said apparatus comprising:
- 5 a session initiation actuator actuable by the user, said session initiation actuator, when actuated by the user for initiating the apparent push to talk communication session connection;
- 10 a voice data buffer adapted selectably to receive the voice data, said voice data buffer for buffering at least for a selected period subsequent to the actuation of said session initiation actuator to buffer voice data, the voice data buffered during formation of the apparent push to talk communication session retrieved therefrom and transmitted to the correspondent node upon formation of the communication session connection, buffering of
- 15 the voice data at said voice data buffer appearing to the user to be push to talk communications with the correspondent node.
2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the mobile station comprises a voice transducer for converting acoustic energy into the voice data, said apparatus further comprising a switch element for switchingly connecting the voice transducer with said voice data buffer, the voice data into which the acoustic energy is transduced buffered at said voice data buffer when said switch element is in a closed position.
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3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said switch element closes into the closed position for the at least a selected period responsive to actuation of said session initiation actuator.
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4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein said switch element opens out of the closed position at least responsive to the formation of the communication session connection.

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5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the selected period during which said voice data buffer buffers the voice data is defined by boundaries, the boundaries related to the actuation of said session initiation actuator and to the formation of the communication session connection.

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6. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the apparent push to talk communication session initiated by actuation of said session initiation actuator forms an apparent simplex communication session during the at least the selected portion of the communication session.

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7. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the apparent simplex communication session initiated by the actuation of said session initiation actuator forms the apparent simplex communication session during an entire portion of the communication session.

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8. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the selected portion of the communication session that forms the apparent simplex communication session extends at least until the formation of the communication session connection.

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9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein a subsequent portion of the communication session beyond the selected portion forms a duplex communication session.

10. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said session initiation actuator forms part of a user interface, said user interface further comprising a user display, said user display for displaying a display screen, actuation of said session initiation actuator made, in part, responsive to indicia of the display screen displayed on said user display.

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11. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the indicia of the display screen comprises a list identifying at least a calling identifier identifying the correspondent node, said user interface further comprising a selector for selecting the calling identifier prior to actuation of said session initiation actuator.

12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the correspondent node comprises a recording station at which the voice data, when sent thereto, is recorded and wherein the calling identifier formed of the indicia of the display screen identifies the recording station.

5 13. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the correspondent node comprises a telephonic station, wherein the voice service comprises a two-way voice service, and wherein the calling identifier formed of the indicia of the display screen identifies the telephonic station.

10 14. In the radio communication system of claim 1, wherein the correspondent node is operated by an accepting party, a further improvement of apparatus for the correspondent node, said apparatus comprising a session acceptance actuator actuable by the accepting party, said session acceptance actuator, when actuated by the accepting party, for accepting formation of the communication session with the mobile station.

15 15. In a method of communicating in a radio communication system having a mobile station operable by a user at least to send voice data to a correspondent node pursuant to a voice service to a correspondent node, an improvement of a method for facilitating formation of an apparent push to talk communication session connection at least during a selected portion of a communication session, said method comprising:

20 initiating the apparent push to talk communication session connection at the mobile station by actuation of a session initiation actuator;

buffering voice data generated during a selected period subsequent to the actuation of the session initiation actuator during said operation of initiating;

25 transmitting the voice data buffered during said operation of buffering to the correspondent node upon formation of the communication session connection, buffering of the voice data during said operation of buffering and thereafter transmitting the voice data appearing to the user to be push to talk communications with the correspondent node.

30 16. The method of claim 15 wherein said operation of initiating further comprises the operation of selecting the correspondent node to which to send the voice data.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the mobile station comprises a user display, wherein said method further comprises the operation, prior to said operation of initiating, of displaying indicia of the correspondent node on the user display, and wherein said operation
5 of initiating further comprises selecting from the user display the correspondent node to which to send the voice data.

18. The method of claim 15 further comprising the operations of: detecting, at the correspondent node, the voice data; and recording the voice data at the correspondent node.

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19 The method of claim 15 further comprising the additional operation of transmitting additional voice data to the correspondent node subsequent to play out of the voice data buffered during said operation of buffering.

15 20. The method of claim 15 wherein the selected period subsequent to the actuation of the session initiation actuator during which the voice data is buffered during said operation of buffering extends at least until the formation of the communication session connection.